

# Cardiologist performs rare operation in UAE

HI-TECH HEART CENTRE BEING DEVELOPED AT HOSPITAL IN DUBAI

By a staff reporter

**DUBAI** — Fayaz Shawl, a cardiologist who performed the Automatic Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ACID) implant operation on US Vice-President Dick Cheney, is in the process of developing a state-of-the-art heart centre at the Zulekha Hospital in Dubai.

Shawl, who is presently the Clinical Professor of Medicine and Director of Interventional Cardiovascular Medicine at the George Washington University Hospital, and his team of doctors yesterday performed a similar kind of operation on a young diabetic UAE national who had suffered a massive cardiac arrest some weeks back.

According to the doctors, the man had six



Fayaz Shawl performing the operation at Zulekha Hospital. — Photo by Liaqat Hussain

artery blockades resulting in weak heart muscles that increased the

chances of a heart failure. Termed as the first of its kind operation in Dubai,

ACID implant operation reduces the risk of sudden death.

“The ACID implant operation is very helpful for the cardiac patients. And it is not very costly. The entire operation costs between \$26,000 to \$30,000,” said Shawl.

Shawl pointed out that he and the Rashid Hospital would be jointly involved in many innovative research programmes.

The cardiologists from the UAE will also be meeting Shawl in order to know more about treating serious ailments like kidney failure, strokes etc.

Talks will also be held with regard to issues like Stent Thrombosis (blood clotting within the newly designed drug-eluting stents) and the use of blood thinners after implantation of such stents.